News Advisory



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 22, 2006

CONTACT: Roy Stearns (916) 654-7538

State Parks' Report on Future Parks for Central Valley Ready for Release

Input from Valley Residents Provided Basis for Vision

WHO: Ruth Coleman – Director, California State Parks

Frank Bigelow – Madera County Supervisor and Chairman, San Joaquin River

Conservancy Board

Coke Hallowell – Board President, San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation

Trust

Jim Oftedal -- Program Manager, Central Valley Consortium, U.S. Forest

Service

John Anderson – Member of Sycamore Island Task Force

WHAT: Release of the "California State Parks' Central Valley Vision".

Over the past two years, State Parks has conducted an extensive public outreach, holding town-hall style meetings across the State, from Redding to Bakersfield, asking Valley residents for recommendations on what kinds of special places they want to preserve and protect as future parks, recreation, historic and cultural sites. This was done because the Central Valley is growing rapidly, yet remains one of the most underserved areas in the State. This report outlines what kinds of parks Valley residents said they want for the future.

Director Coleman will release and discuss the report. Others will discuss how it specifically applies to their areas of the Central Valley, with an announcement expected on a successful local effort.

WHEN: 11:00 AM – Thursday, May 25, 2006

WHERE: Sycamore Island Ranch – <u>See map on next page.</u>

39664 Avenue 7 ½ Madera, CA 93638



